**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (original) A method of identifying a B cell carrying a surface immunoglobulin molecule having a binding site for an antigen of interest comprising

   (a) contacting a sample putatively containing said B cell

      (aa) with the antigen of interest wherein said antigen is labeled with a first label; and

      (ab) with a receptor specifically binding to said surface immunoglobulin molecule wherein said receptor is labeled with a second label; and wherein said first label, when being brought into a spatial proximity of between 10 and 100 Angstrom with said second label emits a detectable signal upon activation of said second label by an external source; and

   (b) assessing the presence of said detectable signal, wherein said presence is, in turn, indicative of the B cell carrying a surface molecule having a binding site for the antigen of interest.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said B cell is an autoreactive B cell.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein said surface immunoglobulin molecule is an IgD, an IgE, an IgM or an IgG.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 3~~, wherein said B-cell is a naive, IgD-positive B-cell.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 4~~, wherein said antigen of interest is selected from the group consisting of

   (a) auto-antigens

(b) allergens; and

(c) immunoglobulins

6. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 5~~, wherein said sample is a sample of essentially purified B cells.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 6~~, wherein said first label is a fluorophore or fluorochrome.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 7~~, wherein said second label is a fluorophore or fluorochrome.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 8~~, wherein said receptor is an antibody or a fragment or derivative thereof.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein said antibody is directed against the Fc-part of the surface immunoglobulin molecule.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said antibody is an anti-idiotypic antibody, wherein said anti-idiotypic antibody does not interfere with the binding site to the antigen.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim~~any one of claims~~ 1~~ to 11~~, further comprising the step of isolating identified B-cells.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of cloning VH- and VL-domains from identified B cells.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of

(a) introducing mutations in the sequences encoding said VH- and/or VL-domain/s of at least one of said B cells, wherein said mutations result in amino acid substitutions and wherein the number of mutations ranges from one to thirty, such that one or more modified antibodies is/are obtained; and/or

(b) shuffling a repertoire of V-domains to the VH- or VL-domains of said B cells, such that one or more modified antibodies is/are obtained; and/or

(c) grafting at least one CDR of at least one of the cloned VH- and/or VL-domain/s of said B cells into the corresponding position/s of the variable regions of a first antibody library, such that a second antibody library is obtained; and

(d) subjecting the resulting modified antibody/ies and/or antibody library to further selection on the antigen or parts thereof using a biological display system.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 ~~or 14~~, further comprising the step of expressing at least one of said V-domains in an expression system.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim~~-any one of claims~~ 13 ~~to 15~~, further comprising the step of generating antibodies or fragments or derivatives from said V-domains.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the steps of rearranging possible combinations of different VH and VL domains.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim~~-any one of claims~~ 13 ~~to 17~~, wherein the VH and VL domains are specific for CD28.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the VH- and/or VL-domains

(a) comprise ~~(an)~~ amino acid sequence~~(s)~~ selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos: 78, 80, 82, 84, 86 and 88; ~~and/~~or

(b) are encoded by ~~(a)~~ nucleic acid sequence~~(s)~~ comprising a ~~sequences~~ sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 60, 61, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87 and 89.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 16 ~~to 19~~, wherein said derivatives are bispecific antibody constructs or single chain antibodies.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~any one of claims~~ 16 ~~to 20~~, wherein said derivatives comprise at least one binding site specific for CD28.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said derivatives

(a) comprise the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 76; ~~and/~~or

(b) are encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 77.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~any one of claims~~ 1 ~~to 22~~, further comprising an assay for antibody evaluation.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein said evaluation assay is a binding assay.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein said binding assay is an ELISA or a FACS based binding assay.

26. (currently amended) An antibody generated by the method of claim ~~any one of claims~~ 1 ~~to 25~~, which is specific for human CD28.

27. (currently amended) An antibody generated by the method of claim ~~any one of claims~~ 1 ~~to 26~~, wherein said antibody

(a) comprises ~~(an)~~ amino acid ~~sequence(s)~~ sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86 and 88; ~~and/~~or

(b) is encoded by ~~(a)~~ nucleic acid ~~sequence(s)~~ sequence comprising a ~~sequence(s)~~ sequence selected from the group consisting of the SEQ ID NOs: 60, 61, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87 and 89.

28. (original) A device for assessing the presence of a detectable signal as defined in claim 1, wherein said device comprises a closed system for the detection laser-beam and a catcher tube, and wherein the B cell of interest can be collected as a single cell by means of an electrochemical device which is triggered by an electric signal generated by the FACS device, wherein the electrochemical device moves the nozzle of the steady catcher tube liquid stream for a programmed time over a collecting tube, microtiter plate or other container after a B cell is sorted.